THE REPORTER

Vol. IV DECEMBER 1, 1945 No. 11

Amnesty

Pacifist and liberal groups were working on a number of different fronts last month to have CO prisoners released and their civil rights restored.

The Absolutist War Objectors Association, headed by Julius Eichel, resumed its picketing of the White House, asking for the freedom of all COs in general and Corbett Bishop in particular.

The War Resisters League, Fellowship of Reconciliation and Jehovah's Witnesses had sent a delegation to see Attorney General Tom C. Clark early in September and were still awaiting the Department of Justice's recommendations in the matter, originally promised October 1.

The NSBRO meanwhile followed up its letter to President Truman October 15 (to which no reply was received) by a visit with Presidential Secretary David K. Niles, a visit urged and partly arranged by Roger Baldwin of the American Civil Liberties Union.

In its letter to the President, the NSBRO had asked that "you celebrate your first Christmas in office and the first Christmas that has looked down on a world at peace for many years, with an act of Christian mercy, by granting full pardon and amnesty to all men who have violated the Selective Training and Service Act because of their religious and conscientious beliefs."

When asked by David Niles for specific steps in releasing CO prisoners, the NSBRO recommended:

Recommendations

1. Removal of all special conditions from regular third-of-term paroles so that Selective Service cases would be on a par with other prisoners. This would eliminate restrictions on pay, choice and place of work.

2. Liberalize and speed up Plan 4 paroles under Executive Order 8641, removing the

(*Continued on page 3*)

CPS Lore

Another in THE REPORTER'S *series of famous and infamous CO stories and legends:*

It was last year, the year that assignees at the Farnhurst, Del., State Hospital were softball-mad. Farnhurst men will never forget that year.

Earlier in the summer the CPS team had won a sensational and bitterly fought battle from the three-times state champions, the Wilmington Arrows. One man even got a broken leg in that game, in a mixup at second base.

On August 14—a Tuesday it was—the CPS men were playing the New Castle Army Air Base, at the base. Things weren't looking so good. The game was nearly over and assignees were trailing three to five.

Well sir, at about that point there was an announcement over the public address system: "Japan surrenders unconditionally!"

The place was bedlam. Servicemen and spectators jumped and shouted and hooted and ran about the field yelling, "We're civilians again." Things quieted down after a bit and play was resumed. But it wasn't quite the same.

It took the end of the war to do it, but the COs took five runs in the seventh and the final score was eight to five.

Units Closing

Civilian Public Service was on the move last month as both the increasing rate of demobilization and the demands of special projects combined to shrink camp strengths.

Five camps and two units were scheduled for early closing: Waldport, Oreg., by December 15; Missoula, Mont., by December 15; Hill City, S. D., by January 1; Elkton, Oreg., and Downey, Idaho, dates uncertain. The Public Health unit at Wakulla, Fla., and the supervisory unit at the Cheltenham, Md., Boys School were also being terminated.

At the same time, vacancies were not being filled in the Alexian Brothers Hospital unit, Chicago; in the Duke University units; at the Denver Psychopathic Hospital, the American Fork, Utah, State Training School, or among the dairy herd testers. Additional units will probably be listed later.

Two new hospital units have been approved meanwhile, both veterans' hospitals, at Livermore, Calif., and Roseburg, Oreg. (these will be CPS Nos. 150 and 151), and the recently expanded unit at the Lyons, N. J., Veterans Facility will be still further increased to 385 men.

Livermore, Calif., is a tubercular veterans' hospital and its approval marks the first time this type of institution has been opened to CPS men. The 130 assignees desired are being largely recruited from west coast MCC camps. Arthur Jost, previously assistant director at Provo, Utah, will serve as unit leader.

Roseburg, Oreg., is asking for the immediate services of 40 assignees to replace a unit of 50 soldiers now being transferred or discharged. This unit will be under the supervision of the BSC.

(*Continued on page 3*)

Demobilization

The demobilization of CPS was stepped up to a rate of 30 releases per working day last month in Selective Service's determined attempt to discharge 1,325 men by December 15.

This would include all men who had been in CPS four years by December 31, 1945; all men 38-and-over and all men 35-to-38 with two years of service by the same date.

By last November 21, the job was about 40 percent complete. With another 15 days to go, Selective Service will have to discharge 48 men per day to reach its goal. Overall working-day average since October 2, when the demobilization of CPS was first begun, is 16.1 men, although Selective Service has released as many as 62 men in one day.

December 15 was set as the final discharge date this year so that returning CPS men would not further clog transportation facilities over the Christmas period. Discharges will be resumed after the first of the year.

At the same time, Selective Service provided an answer to the question which had been puzzling many assignees: what happens to the man who passes the four-year mark or reaches his 38th birthday (or his 35th birthday if he has been in two years) shortly after the critical date set for these groups?

The answer seems to be that they will simply be grouped with the next classification awaiting release so that all strays will be picked up as demobilization progresses. Prec-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Brethren Stay In

The Brethren Service Committee last month decided to continue its administration of CPS units indefinitely.

The surprise move, described as "a distinct reversal of the trend apparent at the beginning of the meetings", apparently was the result of (1) the feeling that the BSC still has a distinct duty to the assignees under its jurisdiction and (2) the fear that withdrawal might jeopardize chances of church-operated alternative service under any future conscription.

Great majority of BSC assignees themselves favored withdrawal, it was understood, or some action similar to that of the Friends who served notice that they would consider their administrative responsibility ended on March 2, six months after V-J Day. Elected assignee representatives on the CPS Council were instrumental in the final decision to remain, however.

The CPS Council resolution, later adopted by the BSC with some modification, follows:

"The Church of the Brethren does not deny the right of the state to conscript, though it strongly opposes conscription for war, but is dedicated to a program of alternative service for their Brethren men in the event of peacetime or another wartime conscription.

"Therefore it seems clear that rather than

(*Continued on page 2*)

Death

David G. Keller, CPS farmer assigned to Dodge County, Wis., died last November 17 from a long-standing illness diagnosed as lobar pneumonia.

For more than a year he had complained of pains in his back and legs severe enough to hinder his work. Treatments seemed to have little effect. Early last month he was furloughed to his own home at Dallas Center, Iowa, but his condition grew steadily worse. Penicillin, intravenous feeding and oxygen failed to save him.

Keller was 29, single, and a member of the Old Order River Brethren. He reported to CPS on November 25, 1941, and was one of the first group of men to be assigned to dairy farm service. Had he lived, he would have been eligible for discharge this month for length of service.

His death is the 28th in CPS.

William Chupp

Further details were available last week on the hunting accident in which William Chupp, Mennonite farm assignee in Lancaster County, Pa., lost his right eye.

Chupp, his employer Norman Peifer and another man went out to hunt pheasants on the first day of hunting season, November 1. Chupp bagged his limit early in the day and left the others to return to the car.

He was almost at the other end of the field and out of sight when the men remaining flushed a pheasant and fired simultaneously. Later they found Chupp where he had collapsed, complaining about a sharp pain in his eye. An immediate hospital examination showed that the eyeball had been punctured and the eye was removed that afternoon.

Because Chupp was a farm assignee and covered to some extent by accident insurance, his medical bills were paid and compensation granted him in the amount of $500.

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Discharges

The following men have been discharged or authorized for discharge:

RELEASED

Overage (38-and-over or 35-to-38 with two years service)

American Fork, Utah, Training School: Floyd J. Borntrager.
Belden, Calif.: George T. Ballew, Lloyd E. Basinger, Murl L. Miller.
Belton, Mont.: Alvin B. Kliewer.
Big Flats, N. Y.: Maurice M. Ortlip, Robert A. Semple.
Bowie, Md. (including detached service): Herbert S. Baily, Ralph Beechy, John E. Bender, C. Delisle Crawford, Jr., Walter E. Forster, Benjamin F. Hottel, Richard C. Mills, David H. Suderman, Roy E. Wenger.
Brattleboro, Vt., Retreat: George J. Allein, James A. Eastman, James W. B. Kelley.
Camino, Calif.: Joni E. Beachy.
Cascade Locks, Oreg.: Owen Williams.
Coleville, Calif.: Charley T. Gordon, Edwin L. Palmer, Jr., Bennett V. Reed.
Columbus, Ohio, Hospital: Glen E. Cluts, Keith A. Howard, Gerald C. Miller, Carl L. Shermer, Louis A. Ziebart.
CPS Dairy Testers: Perry J. Bontrager, Wilmer O. Henry, Henry J. Simon.
CPS Farmers: Charles F. Blankenship, William H. Coning, Elmer R. Doyle, Elmer H. Miller, David P. Shank.
CPS Guinea Pig: James V. Guthrie.
Denver, Colo., Hospital: Paul Graber.
Downey, Idaho: Benjamin H. Duerksen.
Elkton, Oreg.: William Alders, Raymond Batcheller, James D. Jarvis.
Ft. Collins, Colo.: Ralph B. Homes.
Gatlinburg, Tenn.: James L. Anderson, William H. Cleveland, Jr., Ernest M. Coppedge, Frederick F. Drake, Albert B. Weaver.
Glendora, Calif.: Lewis J. Arney, Robert M. Brill, Gilbert F. Dirks.
Grottoes, Va.: Enos S. Gehman.
Hagerstown, Md.: Arthur C. Isenberg.
Independence, Iowa, Hospital: Lloyd A. Pancoast.
Kalamazoo, Mich., Hospital: Henry V. Adrian.
Lapine, Oreg.: Eugene C. Bagnell, Edward F. Birdsell, William A. Ellis, Marion C. Smalley, Lewis N. Tydings.
Laurel, Md., Training School: M. Candler Lazenby, Merle D. Randle, William H. Reese.
Lincoln, Nebr.: Pete E. Klassen.
Luray, Va.: Harry S. Brubaker.
Lyons, N. J., Hospital: Albert E. Harris, Everett L. Johnson, Paul M. Martin, James S. P. Trout.
Mancos, Colo.: Peter Firmani, Ira C. Lesley, John W. Ukrainski.
Middletown, Conn., Hospital: Richard H. Crum.
Minersville, Calif.: Edmund Curtis, Earl G. Kosbab, John Love, Charles Mullen, Charles F. Nicolay, Alvin L. Plant.
Newton, Conn., Hospital: Floyd N. Hermann, Carl E. Throop.
New York City, Presbyterian Hospital: Carl A. Wals.
Norristown, Pa., Hospital: Hartley B. Rhines, John A. Wittmer.
North Fork, Calif.: Wendell W. Asbell, Elvin K. Burkhart, Gilbert T. Harris, Merle D. Mead.
Norwich, Conn., Hospital: George C. Geier, Roy S. McNutt, Robert Reinhart, Emory C. Smith.
Olustee, Fla. (Special Forest Service): George B. Ashman.
Owings Mills, Md., Training School: George F. Klein, George E. Shields, M. Eugene York.
Philadelphia, Pa., Hospital: Franklin P. Donovan, Jr., Stuart S. Moore.
Staunton, Va., Hospital: Jacob I. Kreider.
Wellston, Mich.: Arthur G. Heisler, Franklin M. Juvinall.

For Length of Service (48 months or more)

Ames, Iowa, Ag. Unit: Robert M. Lumpkin, Charles T. McLaughlin, Allen R. Osborn, Byron G. Thomas, Raymond S. Trayer.
Bedford, Va.: Lee O. Yoder.
Blenden, Calif.: Mark A. Menke.
Bowie, Md. (including detached service): B. Tartt Bell, Glenn G. Burgard, Alfred O. Chamberlin, Wilfred W. Clannin, William H. Cooper, Daniel C. Frysinger, Reuben J. Goodling, Robert G. Greiner, Morris T. Keeton, Marlin H. Lauver, Francis W. Marburg, James Myers, Jr., Hubert C. Overmyer, John M. Reimer, Richard W. Reuter, Raymond C. Schlichting, Louis W. Schneider, Joseph W. Showalter, Carl D. Shull, Donald C. Smith, Richard W. Stow, Arthur B. Weaver, Daniel Yutsy.
Camino, Calif.: John H. Goering, Noah Y. Wenger, Ora E. Wyse.
Cascade Locks, Oreg.: Rudolph A. Potochnik.
Chicago, Ill., Alexian Hospital: John DeRoo, Peter C. Flintermann, Lowell Hershberger, Harold R. Phend, Howard E. Sollenberger.
Coleville, Calif.: William L. Neumann.
Colony, Va., Hospital: Elmer E. Shaw.
Colorado Springs, Colo.: Jake J. Plett, Edwin J. Schmidt, Ezra Stauffer.
Columbus, Ohio, Hospital: Homer A. Bonhivert, I. Mason Satterthwaite, Forest W. Shively, John R. Wager.
Concord, N. H., Hospital: John H. Burrowes, Richard W. Crane, Raymond L. Simmons, George E. R. Smith, Hubert J. Stadlmayr.
Coshocton, Ohio: Warren C. Allinger, John R. Hubbard.
CPS Dairy Tester: John R. Brenéman, Ben J. Isaac, Menno E. Martens, Gerald E. Miller, Roy Noffsinger, Lloyd H. Ranck, Arnold Wall.
CPS Farmer: Harold C. Bruss, Lester M. Crumley, Abe J. Epp, Melvin V. Gaeddert, Wilmer G. Hartley, Carlton E. Hollister, Lee E. Miller, Howard W. Mishler, Noble W. Nusbaum, David W. Pauls, Elias M. Raber, Leslie L. Schultz, Nathan Steiner, Harry D. Valentine.
CPS Guinea Pig: Morris A. Linton, William Lowden, E. Kellogg Peckham, William E. Rhodes.
Denison, Iowa: Milphert King, Erwin P. Krehbiel, Harry J. Loewen, Amos L. Mast, Frederick W. Schowalter, Willis L. Stahl.
Downey, Idaho: John W. Schmidt.
Duke, N. C., Hospital: Charles R. Elliott, Eugene A. Ranson, Francis C. Troyer.
Florida Public Health Units: Curtis A. Johnson.
Ft. Collins, Colo.: Gerhard R. Buhr, Donald J. Liechty.
Glendora, Calif.: Clelland E. Beltz, Leroy C. Bird, Joseph B. Brown, Clarence R. Burck, Glen C. Dooley, Alex Gozdiff, Arlo F. Hilkey, Paul B. Johnson, Chester A. Keeney, Leonard P. Kuntz, Lowell R. McCann, William A. Nazaroff, Kirby Page, Jr., Welda L. Tracy, Dwight D. Webster.
Greystone, N. J., Hospital: M. Joseph Wyse.
Grottoes, Va.: Jay T. Fornwalt, David M. Hess, Henry S. Swartzendruber.
Hagerstown, Md.: Paul H. Bruckhart, Daniel J. Peachey, Samuel S. Stoltzfus, Donald Strayer, Edwin L. Stull, Simon C. Summy, Donald E. Thomas.
Howard, R. I., Hospital: Ammon K. Stoltzfus, George M. Swartley, Norman A. Townsend.
Independence, Iowa, Hospital: Louis A. Kuehl.
Lima, Ohio, Hospital: Noah B. Troyer.
Lincoln, Nebr.: Elmer L. Kaufman.
Lincoln, Nebr., Ag. Unit: James E. Rutschman.
Logansport, Ind., Hospital: Bernard E. Fisher.
Luray, Va.: Edwin B. Rutt.
Macedonia, Ohio, Hospital: James H. Armstrong, Clarence E. Burkholder.
Medaryville, Ind.: Nathan T. Benner, Chris D. Bontrager, Clarence L. Eichelberger, John E. Mast, Christian C. Miller, Archie W. Mishler, Atlee J. Raber, John E. Smucker, Menno Steury.
Minersville, Calif.: George H. Baird, William C. Goudy.
Missoula, Mont.: David P. Flaccus, E. Jacob Friesen, Jacob M. Hisey.
New Liston, N. J., Training School: Samuel J. Stellrecht.
North Fork, Calif.: Paul E. Coffman, Emanuel G. Liechty, Max I. Swartzell.
Owings Mills, Md., Training School: Robert E. Rose.
Philadelphia, Pa., Hospital: Rex M. Corfman, Milo D. Himes, Jr., Leonard Rankin, David E. Swift, Edwin N. Whiteway.
Powellsville, Md.: Norman A. Hunsberger, Charles W. Martin.
Puerto Rico Units: Albert E. Bohrer.
Spring City, Pa., Training School: Charles W. Doak.
Staunton, Va., Hospital: Bayard W. Miller, Paul R. Spangler.
Sykesville, Md., Hospital: Orville E. Beehler, Hugh C. Custer, Harry E. Gipe, Ronald D. Gordley.
Terry, Mont.: Raymond Buller, Henry Guhr, Menno Koehn, Robert G. Regier, Elmer H. Wall, Alvin H. Weaver.
Trenton, N. D.: Harold L. Bruns, Henry V. Deale, Jr., Harvey W. Hoskins.
Warren, Pa., Hospital: David L. Sommerville.
Wellston, Mich.: Milo C. Woll, Wilbur M. Foor, John E. Freese.

OTHER DISCHARGES

For Physical Disability

Blenden, Calif.: Clarence E. Beard.
Big Flats, N. Y.: Bernard Atkins.
Gatlinburg, Tenn.: Hiram M. Knopp.
Harrisburg, Pa., Hospital: Frank J. Gardner.
Minersville, Calif.: Wells J. Haynes.
Norwich, Conn., Hospital: Clarence E. Kusmaul.
Powellsville, Md.: Ralph J. Alger.

For Hardship (Occupational or Dependency)

Belden, Calif.: Roy L. Tipton.
Camino, Calif.: Ivan T. Elrich.
Columbus, Ohio, Hospital: Lemuel F. Brown.
CPS Farmer: J. V. Peden, Dahn J. Weaver.
Independence, Iowa, Hospital: Arthur A. Migaes.
Lapine, Oreg.: Cecil A. Kemp.
Lincoln, Nebr.: Allen Jantz, Rudolph W. Toews.
Missoula, Mont.: Charles R. Hudson.
North Fork, Calif.: Leonard P. Johnson.
Terry, Mont.: Christ Wanner, Jr.
Trenton, N. D.: Laurence E. Smith.
Warren, Pa., Hospital: Shirley F. Bodenstein.

Walked Out

Elkton, Oreg.: W. Wesley Durlanll, David C. Fawcett.

Brethren Stay In—*(from page 1)*

withdrawing from Civilian Public Service at this time, an effort should be made to revise it as a witness of our desire for a constructive, pacifist alternative.

"It is our judgment that withdrawal from CPS at this time would endanger the future possibility of setting up a church-operated alternative service program under future conscription laws. The government probably would not want to give us another chance at such operation if we gave up our work in operating the present program before the job had been completed.

Fear Restricted Program

"It seems clear that Selective Service would abolish many of the most significant projects and operate a restricted program, emphasizing conservation and forestry projects. In order to preserve the present types of projects and to continue expanding good projects, it would be wise to continue our support of a revised program.

"It is our judgment that in the event of withdrawal it would be impossible for the Church of the Brethren to operate a successful ministry to the men in the camps. Selective Service would probably not welcome such ministry inasmuch as we would have withdrawn from the program.

"Of the three feasible ways of promoting the Brethren pacifist witness—CPS, Brethren schools, and volunteer social-action projects—it seems to us that CPS is at present the only program which realistically has potentiality for doing the job.

"On the other hand, the overwhelming majority of expressions of the men in the camps now is that BSC should withdraw its support from CPS. It was felt that this reaction was received from the camps because of widespread inadequacies and failure of the present program and slowness of demobilization—not because of a basic, philosophical disagreement with a church-administered alternative. The bad features of CPS resulted partly rather from a lack of a vigorous Christian administration rather than the presence of it.

"Hence there are two possibilities: either do a significantly better job of operating BCPS or withdraw. It is our considered opinion that if the Church of the Brethren is not enough interested in Civilian Public Service to significantly widen the program as suggested, it should definitely withdraw from the program."

Recommendations

At the same time, the BSC made several recommendations: that the government itself withdraw from CPS by March 2, 1946; that in any event it decrease its control over the program; and that special service opportunities be expanded.

Specifically it asked that Brethren base camps be reduced to one or two by spring,

that more men be permitted to transfer to foreign relief and rehabilitation projects, such as those at New Windsor, Md., and Modesto, Calif., and that efficiency in church administration be increased both in Washington and Elgin.

A subcommittee was set up to review the program again on March 1 with the assumption that if these improvements had not been possible, the question of withdrawal might be considered again.

Assignee Reaction

Overall assignee reaction to the statement was not known, but the BSC decision touched off a demonstration fast by 11 men at Waldport, Oreg. The 11 intended to fast, apparently, "until public awareness of the protest gives promise of causing BSC to change its policy." On Thanksgiving, the men were going into their third day without food.

"The BSC's expressed intention to continue sponsoring CPS after March 2 is in reality support of peacetime conscription," they declared in an open memorandum. "The twice-expressed wish of the men at Waldport, and of men in all Brethren CPS, is that BSC withdraw from CPS on or before March 2."

The men were also protesting "BSC's method of coercion used in the forcing of transfers upon the men at Waldport." The camp is due to be closed this month and the men distributed to other camps and special projects.

Methodists

Methodist Commission on World Peace took no final action in regard to withdrawal at its meeting last month but voted "that the Committee on Conscientious Objectors be given power to act as it sees fit."

The Commission also deferred action on a suggestion to ask the President and Congress to approve plans for alternative service, in the event of peacetime conscription legislation.

Other resolutions were:

That the Commission continue to solicit funds so that costs for Methodist men in CPS may be fully met.

That the Commission support the NSBRO in its request that the President grant pardons to COs who are or have been in prison.

That the Commission ask the Budget Committee of the Crusade for Christ to allocate a portion of the War Victims' Fund for dependents of Methodist COs, and to report such action to the chairman of that Committee.

That the Commission request proper authorities in Washington to release COs in CPS as rapidly as men are demobilized from the armed forces, recognizing that these men have given service to the nation without compensation.

Units Closing—*(from page 1)*

Many Transfers

Added to the reshuffling of units as the result of an accelerating demobilization is the normal winter shift from west coast to eastern units. The combination, according to the NSBRO's Camp Section, is setting new records in the number of men on the move in any one period.

With four-year men already in the process of discharge, and three-year men slated for release early next year, a great turnover in hospital units is inevitable, the Camp Section said. The number of volunteers is already lagging considerably behind the vacancies and most hospitals will have to be content with greatly reduced CPS strengths. In general, agencies are asking only those with less than 30 months service to apply.

Demobilization—*(from page 1)*

edent for this was given in the extension to December 31, 1945, of the critical date for men in the three classifications now being discharged.

Spectator Comment

In Chicago, the 27th Annual Convention of the American Legion went on record opposing a disproportionate demobilization of CPS men. The action was milder than expected.

The convention also adopted a minority recommendation of its Americanism Committee that I-A-Os be given different discharge papers than those given other servicemen.

In New York City, the Federal Council of Churches adopted as official policy the letter written Selective Service by Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam last September 21 which called for a "fair and equitable plan of demobilization" for COs. Bishop Oxnam is president of the Federal Council.

In England

A bill to release conditionally-registered British COs was introduced recently into the House of Commons. If passed, it will allow the Ministry of Labor to "direct" that such men be freed of their conditions in the same age and service groups as men released from the British armed forces, but four to six weeks later.

If the bill is not passed, conditionally-registered COs would continue in their present work assignments until the emergency is declared at an end.

Henry Dyer

At the same time, the NCCO made public the reply of Presidential Secretary Matthew J. Connelly to the detailed criticism of CPS compiled by Henry Dyer. Dyer, now in the Sandstone, Minn., Federal Prison, spent the better part of a year compiling the memorandum after walking out of CPS. He particularly criticized misuse of assignee talents.

"It is felt that, all things considered," Connelly replied, "the best possible use has been made of conscientious objectors, under the circumstances, in solving the Nation's manpower problems during this emergency, taking into consideration the limitations placed upon its employment by the conscientious views of the individuals."

Regarding the memorandum itself, he commented:

"All of these problems have previously been investigated at great length. We find that the work of national importance now in operation consists of a great variety of projects under the different Federal, State, and local agencies; that all of these different projects require men with professional, semi-professional and skilled training.

"I am also informed that Selective Service has never been able to fill all of these jobs due to the fact that a great many COs, having the required training and skills, refused to volunteer for . . . these jobs. It is noted that approximately one-half of all COs are now employed on projects for which they volunteered. . . .

"My attention has been called to the fact that approximately 50 percent of the signers of this petition are now employed on such projects for which they volunteered. . . ."

Amnesty—*(from page 1)*

present requirements that such projects be similar to CPS in type of work and lack of remuneration. Men are theoretically eligible for this parole after serving 60 days although in most cases men released under Plan 4 have served a year or more before parole was approved.

3. Executive clemency and the restoration of full civil rights to all COs.

4. Instructions to Selective Service for II-A classifications for all registrants employed by non-profit institutions or organizations engaged in foreign relief, religious, charitable, educational or benevolent work. Delinquent registrants could then be returned for reclassification.

In the same memorandum, the NSBRO also urged that the sentence of Corbett Bishop be immediately commuted.

"The Honorable T. Webber Wilson of the U. S. Board of Parole," the statement pointed out, "has given us permission to use his name as one who has seen Corbett Bishop, believes completely in his sincerity, and feels that Presidential pardon is a desirable, and the only acceptable, solution in this case."

Imprisoned

A total of 20 men, designated as COs and JWs by the Federal Bureau of Prisons, were sent to prison between November 5 and 23 for violations of the Selective Service Act. Of the total 17 were Jehovah's Witnesses.

Postwar Hospitals

A number of different groups and agencies were working last month to find the answer to the question: what happens to the mental hospitals when CPS assignees leave?

At the center of the group is, of course, the CPS Mental Hygiene Program Committee, now enlarged to 11 members, and carrying on a concerted attempt to get the American public interested in the plight of its mental institutions. Other groups and individuals, including the administrative agencies and the NSBRO, were cooperating.

Loren Walters, formerly assignee director of the Independence, Iowa, Hospital unit spent most of the month of November meeting with ministers' groups and civic associations in Iowa. Claude Shotts and Leonard Lazarus of the NSBRO have been meeting similar groups in Connecticut and New Jersey. Justin Reese, former CPS hospital assignee now with the National Committee on Mental Hygiene, has been attempting to organize state-wide mental hygiene associations beginning in Ohio.

In each case the procedure was the same, encouraging church people, women's groups, organized labor, to investigate mental institutions in their neighborhood, promote and encourage measures to increase appropriations, raise working conditions and pay, demand additional training for attendants, insist on higher standards of patient care, examine state laws governing mental institutions for outworn regulations and practices.

CPS hospital units admittedly have been a stop-gap measure during an emergency, but no solution to the basic, long-term problems such institutions face. Great hope has been expressed however, by National Committee on Mental Hygiene officials and others, that there might be a tremendous leavening influence from the 2,000 to 3,000 men who have had actual ward experience and know first hand hospital difficulties and shortcomings, and who will function as citizens and church members in their home states.

Army and Navy

Both the army and navy have replied to the NSBRO that previous service in CPS cannot be counted on a serviceman's discharge score.

The corollary is also true for men who transfer from the armed forces to CPS. Selective Service computes their period of

service from the time actually inducted into CPS.

The War Department pointed out that it did not even credit time spent in the Enlisted Reserve Corps or Specialized Training Reserve Program before a soldier began full active duty. The Navy Department simply said no, explaining that CPS was not military service.

The question, previously taken for granted, was revived when the 40th Infantry Division, overseas, wrote to the "Commanding Officer", Camp Grottoes, Va., to request verification of an ex-CPS man's service there "for correction of Adjusted Service Rating and longevity pay". Grottoes verified the service but whether the man ever got it was not known.

CO Notes

Further attempts are being made by the Brethren Service Committee to have CPS men released to man cattle boats to Europe in their Heifers for Relief plan.

Meanwhile numbers of discharged assignees were signing up for the trips as temporary employment after their release from CPS. The trips require about three months time; duties consist principally in taking care of the heifers or horses or miscellaneous items en route; and pay is $150 plus maintenance, not to mention a free trip to Europe.

About 800 men can be used, it was emphasized, and men now being released were urged to consider it. Applicants should write Benjamin Bushong, Box 26, New Windsor, Maryland.

In Congress

Congressman Paul W. Shafer (Mich.) became interested in the CO discharge picture last month during his investigation of the armed forces demobilization patterns. Terming the point system "unfair", he criticized the services for favoring overseas personnel when, he said, others have served in this country "through no choice of their own". In this group he included limited servicemen and conscientious objectors.

Shafer's bill, to release everyone with two years' service regardless of the point system, makes no mention or provision for CPS men, however. The bill has remained unconsidered by the House Military Affairs Committee and Shafer has initiated a discharge petition, requiring 218 signatures, to force the Committee to bring the measure before the House. He had 68 at last report.

This Modern Age

John P. Dooley, Bedford, Va., assignee, wasn't content simply to send letters to Congress protesting peacetime conscription. He recently sent Senator Robert F. Wagner (N. Y.) a phonograph record of his views, imploring him "to vote down such an act of dictatorship in our fine country".

Admittedly, of course, the benefits to be gained from Dooley's oral presentation will be lost if the Senator doesn't have a phonograph.

Valedictory

Dr. Kenneth B. Jones, superintendent of the Sykesville, Md., State Hospital, is sending the following note to CPS men being discharged from the unit:

"Of course I know that you have just received your orders terminating your service in CPS. I am sure that you are happy about this.

"In leaving, I would like to express to you our very great thanks for the conscientious work that you have done for Springfield State Hospital. Irrespective of what one's beliefs are, I think that you and I, as individuals, have an understanding about such things and in spite of our great differences I believe and hope that we continue to have a mutual regard for each other as individuals and for your own opinion. Please believe that in leaving, I wish you the very best—Kenneth B. Jones, M. D."

Blood for Serum

Men of the Norristown, Pa., State Hospital unit have been making blood donations to the Philadelphia Serum Exchange for the production of whooping cough serum.

Fifteen men, out of the original 30 who applied, completed the experiment. Others were eliminated because their reactions to the inoculating shots were too severe or because they were not considered sufficiently inoculated.

Yaaay Team

Earl Kennel, Downey, Idaho, assignee, was selected as a member of the Idaho All State Semi-pro Baseball Team, composed of 16 players. The election was approved by the National Board affiliated with the National Semi-pro Baseball Congress.

War Crimes

Pacifists may have varying views as to our conduct of German war criminal trials, but they now find themselves directly involved.

One of the charges in the first count of the indictment, around which the trials are now revolving, accuse the German High Command of the cruel persecution of pacifist groups. Conviction on this and other counts will doubtless bring death sentences.

Double Trouble

There is a gift shop in Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., run by a Mrs. Winslow Ames, not to be confused—although it was—with the CPS character of the same name.

Mrs. Ames has been considerably surprised to find herself the recipient of considerable CPS business, both in sales and the receipt of CPS handicraft items being offered for sale, by those assignees who had her confused with the wife of the CPS character of the same name.

A Quaker lady herself, and not one to be non-plussed by unexpected business, Mrs. Ames has now agreed to handle such articles on a regular basis. Assignees should send their handicraft products to her at 146 Main St., Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., give her the retail price desired, and she will return 60 percent of the price if it is sold.

The CPS character of the same name, CPS No. 23, Coshocton, Ohio, is asking no commission for his own involuntary involvement.

From the Papers

From an editorial in the Huntsville, Ala., Times:

. . . It is difficult to comprehend the flood of pacifist endeavor being launched in this land. Congress is receiving hundreds of letters pleading amnesty for the 5,000 draft violators in our prisons. Granted that some of the COs have made a real contribution to the cause for which their brothers died, there is a strong suspicion in many minds that too many of them were conscientious only in their objection to doing their plain duty. . . . The pacifists are a little too eager to return to a civilian freedom and peace their brothers have won for them.

From an editorial in the Chicago Times which discussed the argument that wars are inevitable because there always will be insane aggressors:

There have been madmen who would use such methods, even at the risk of destroying their own countries. There will be such men in the future. For their own salvation, the peoples of the world must become such conscientious objectors that they must let nothing break up the organization to outlaw aggressors. They must make the United Nations Organization work, starting now.

From the Minnesota Daily, the university paper:

All of the costumes for "The School for Scandal", currently showing at the University Theater, were designed especially for the members of the cast. The fashions of the 18th Century call for very tightly-fitted men's breeches. When the play opened Tuesday, all costumes were ready.

George Ebeling, who plays the villian, Joseph Surface, rushed in shortly before curtain time and started to put on his costume. He pulled and tugged at his breeches but they just wouldn't go on.

Ebeling is a member of the conscientious objector group which had been on an experimental semi-starvation diet for several months. Last weekend the experiment ended, and the men were allowed to eat as much as they pleased. Ebeling ate and ate and ate—fried chicken, cake, pie, potatoes and anything else he could get his hands on.

Result—the breeches just wouldn't fit. Now every time Ebeling comes in for a performance, the costume has to be let out a little bit more.

From a letter to the editor of the Philadelphia Bulletin:

A year or more ago my 18-year-old son decided he couldn't "take" the life of a conscientious objector, after visiting his brother, age 20, who was clearing the trees off future farm land in Maryland. So, he joined the infantry.

Now, when all are wistfully wishing for a sound peace as they nurse their atomic bombs and squabble over this and that—

My infantryman finds himself cutting lumber in the backwoods of Italy while my "conchie" gives his body to further science and the Army's knowledge of the effects of malaria and of starvation, etc., as on his few hours off and $2.50 a month "pay" he adds an occasional credit to his college hopes.

Neither of my sons have suffered as have so many of yours, but these United States are made up of all of them and each of us should be not only putting on our thinking caps as to how to make an "abiding peace" but we should each be "peace-makers".—E. Nicholson, Llanerch, Pa.

From the column National Grapevine by Charley Cherokee in the Chicago Defender, a Negro paper:

Colored and white conscientious objectors confined to federal prisons are breaking up Jim Crow dining halls by staging hunger strikes and accepting solitary confinement rather than eat segregated. (Give 'em a hand. They're fighting harder than a lot of GIs did.)